GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:178
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2001
ATTACK ON MINORITIES IN JAMMU & KASHMIR
BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL)

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether terrorists have killed sikhs and injured several persons recently in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have failed to provide security to minority communities in Jammu & Kashmir;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures being taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 178 FOR ANS ON 20TH FEBRUARY, 2001

(a) to (b): Yes Sir, during the evening of February 03, 2001 at about 1830 hours, terrorist numbering 5 to 6 in two separate groups struck at Mehjoor Nagar, Bund and Mehjoor Nagar, Mohalla located in the outskirt of Srinagar and fired indiscriminately on members of Sikh Community who were passing by. In the incident, 6 male members of Sikh Community were killed and 5 persons including 2 ladies were injured.

(c) to (e): No Sir, however, Pan-Islamic outfits operating in J&K keep trying to create a communal divide by resorting to in-group killings of members of minority communities and thereby creating an atmosphere of fear with the aim to ethnic cleansing and forcing their exodus. To prevent it, the State Government have taken various preventive/confidence building measures which inter-alia include.

++ Strengthening the Village Defence Committee system by providing them Training and improved weaponary and communication equipment,

++ Strengthening the security grid around the minority inhabited villages,
++ Increased frequency of patrolling by security forces of sensitive and vulnerable areas,

++ Visits by State Government and security force officers to remote and minority villages.

After the incidents of Mehjoor Nagar, the State Government had further reviewed the security arrangements for minorities and remote and scattered populations. In addition there is a constant monitoring of the security situation by the respective Unified Headquarters level at Jammu & Srinagar as well as in Operations groups at various lower levels with a view to dynamic deployment and adoption of strategies by the security forces to meet the various challenges being thrown up by the terrorists. Government of India continues to provide support to the State Government and the security forces in their efforts.